

Marshall
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
memorandum

DATE: July 24, 1979

REPLY TO
ATTN OF EV-21

SUBJECT: THIRD PARTY REVIEW OF BIKINI AND MARSHALL ISLANDS RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY

TO: Ruth Clusen, ASEV

On July 11, 1979, Harlan Lee, Department of State, called to inform me that Mr. Jonathan Weisgall, counselor to the Bikini people, had sent letters of request to the British Embassy and to the International Atomic Energy Agency (copy attached) requesting their assistance in independently reviewing the radiological survey of the Marshall Islands, with particular emphasis on Bikini.

He inquired if we might have any problem with this. I indicated that I did not expect that there would be any objection since we already were on record to that effect. I made two suggestions, however:

1) That any such reviews be mutually acceptable to both parties.

2) That the issue of funding be clearly defined since the U.S. (DOE) was committed to pay for a single scientist to review the data and assessment per the court case in Honolulu. Under the terms of the court settlement we are not obligated to pay for the activities of a large international committee, however. Whether or not the U.S. wishes to do so is another matter.

Informally, Mr. Deal indicates that through a friend of his he has learned that the Federal Republic of Germany also has been contacted. I also have been informally advised that the Japanese government has been approached.

Bruce W. Wachholz
Bruce W. Wachholz, Ph.D.
Office of Environment

cc: Dr. Liverman, DASEV
Mr. Hollister, SA/ASEV
Mr. Deal, OESD
Mr. Facer, OESD
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